



## University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science

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[www.UMCES.edu](http://www.UMCES.edu)

Higher Education and Research  
Member since August 2009

### MANAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP



#### **Environmental Team**

*Our Environmental Sustainability Council (ESC) consists of students, faculty and staff from the Center's three laboratories, Center Administration and Maryland Sea Grant College Program. The ESC functions as a task group and advisory body to the President and Administrative Council. The mission of the ESC includes:*

- 1. Engaging the faculty, staff and students in an ongoing dialogue about reaching environmental sustainability.*
- 2. Providing assessments of the sustainability of operations and recommendations to the President and Administrative Council for improved practices and policies.*
- 3. Serving as the "institutional structure" to guide the development and implementation of a comprehensive climate action plan in fulfillment of the American College & University Presidents Climate Commitment signed by Dr. Donald F. Boesch on December 18, 2007.*



#### **Annual Goals**

*The ESC is currently working on our Action Plan that is due in January 2010.*



#### **Environmentally Preferable Procurement**

*UMCES has committed to the purchase of Energy Star equipment where appropriate and financially practical. Paper purchased is a minimum of 30% and in most cases 100% post-consumer content. We have also begun using corn based products for cups and plates which are compostable.*



#### **Environmental Restoration or Community Environmental Projects**

*Each of UMCES' laboratories participates in strong environmental education programs with the K-12 schools in each of the local counties. The Horn Point Laboratory conducts week-long environmental camps for 8 weeks during the summer. Other programs at Horn Point can be viewed at their web-site <http://hpl.umces.edu/ese/new2008/index.html>. The Appalachian Laboratory*

*outlines their environmental education programs at <http://alese.al.umces.edu/> and the Chesapeake Biological Laboratory' site is <http://www.cbl.umces.edu/Education/K-12-Education/K-12-Education.html> The Horn Point campus has put approximately 100 acres back into natural growth to accommodate habitat for deer, quail, fox, turkey and other native wildlife. By returning this acreage, it also reduces the need to mow the lawn thus cutting carbon footprint of the mowers and time spent by employees. AL has also simplified the landscaping around the facility to reduce maintenance time and cost and has planted a natural species meadow on the grounds that requires very little maintenance.*

## **WASTE**



### **Recycling**

*The STAR (State Agencies Recycle) recycling survey for CY2008 indicates that the Appalachian Laboratory disposed of 10.4 tons of solid waste and recycled 4.75 tons, a recycling rate of 31.35%. The Chesapeake Biological Laboratory disposed of 70 tons of waste and recycled 17.4 tons, a recycling rate of 19.94%, while the Horn Point Laboratory disposed 48 tons and recycled 12 tons, a recycling rate of 25.57%. In 2007, due to increase recycling efforts, AL was able to reduce dumpster pickups to once every over week instead of once a week. The types of materials recycled are: fluorescent light tubes, mixed glass, cans, cardboard, paper, laser toner cartridges, tires, batteries, and e-waste.*

## **ENERGY**



### **Energy Efficiency**

*The Horn Point Laboratory has recently signed a contract for an Energy Management Program with Constellation Energy. The CBL has completed a Part 1 survey and AL is just beginning the process with Constellation Energy. AL has already taken small steps to improve energy efficiency such as controlled thermostat setbacks during non working hours, upper and lower temperature thresholds in all areas, and re-caulking and re-sealing all windows.*



### **Renewable Energy**

*The Dupont Building at Horn Point installed a geothermal system within the past 5 years.*

## **TRANSPORTATION**



### **Efficient Business Travel**

*UMCES is increasing its use of teleconferencing and Interactive Video Conferencing (IVN) for administrative meetings. UMCES has been using IVN for classes since at least 2000. New IT purchases look to computer systems that support video and sound so that meetings can be held for small groups over web based conferencing software. This software is normally open source, simple to use and has helped eliminate the need for faculty and staff to travel in order to keep research collaborations and business communications open.*



### **Fleet Vehicles**

*UMCES has decreased the vehicle fleet, trading in the oldest vehicles and not replacing them. This has caused an increase in ride-sharing as well as decreased casual use of vehicle across campus. Additionally, UMCES augments our fleets with alternative fuel vehicles when possible. AL currently has a Honda Civic Hybrid that is used by both faculty and staff for traveling to meetings and conferences where IVN is not available.*

## **OTHER**



*UMCES currently belongs to the American College & University Presidents Climate Commitment. The ESC uses Clean Air Cool Planet calculation systems for all of our data on sustainability issues.*

*UMCES is currently working on incorporating sustainability issues on the UMCES web site. The Appalachian Laboratory has already included this in their web page.*

*AL Sustainability Web page can be found at  
<http://www.al.umces.edu/alesc/index.html>*